

## Claims

1. (Original) A reverse operation control circuit for a lawn tractor having an engine, a battery, a starter motor and a PTO, comprising:

a) an ignition switch for selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery to start the engine; and

b) an override switch that allows operation of a PTO driven implement while the lawn tractor is in reverse when an actuator of the override switch is in a first position and inhibits operation of the PTO driven implement while the lawn tractor is in reverse when the actuator of the override switch is in a second position, said override switch inhibits said ignition switch from energizing said starter motor with said battery when said actuator of the override switch is in said first position.

2.(Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 wherein the PTO driven implement is a mower blade.

3. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 wherein movement of said actuator of said override switch from said first position to said second position allows said ignition switch to selectively energize said starter motor with said battery.

4. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 wherein a path between said ignition switch and a starter solenoid is open when said actuator of the override switch is in said first position to inhibit said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery.

5.(Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 wherein the override switch is a sustained action two position switch.

6. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 further comprising a PTO switch that controls engagement of the PTO driven implement, the PTO switch inhibits said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery when the PTO switch causes engagement of the PTO driven implement.

7. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 further comprising a PTO switch that senses engagement of the PTO driven implement, the PTO switch inhibits said

ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery when the PTO switch senses engagement of the PTO driven implement.

8. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 6 wherein a path between said ignition switch and a starter solenoid is open when the PTO switch senses engagement of the PTO driven implement to inhibit said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery.

9. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 7 wherein a path between said ignition switch and a starter solenoid is open when the PTO switch causes engagement of the PTO driven implement to inhibit said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery.

10. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 further comprising an engagement switch that senses engagement of a brake, the engagement switch inhibits said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery when the engagement switch does not sense engagement of the brake.

11.(Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 1 further comprising an engagement switch that senses engagement of a transmission, the engagement switch inhibits said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery when the engagement switch senses engagement of the transmission.

12.(Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 10 wherein a path between said ignition switch and a starter solenoid is open when the engagement switch does not sense engagement of the brake to inhibit said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery.

13. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 11 wherein a path between said ignition switch and a starter solenoid is open when the engagement switch senses engagement of the transmission to inhibit said ignition switch from selectively energizing said starter motor with said battery.

14-32 (Canceled)

33. (Original) A reverse operation control circuit for a lawn tractor having an engine, a starter motor for starting the engine, and a PTO, comprising:

- a) a reverse sensing switch for sensing when the lawn tractor is in reverse;
- b) a PTO switch for sensing when a PTO driven implement is engaged; and
- c) a mow in reverse override switch having an actuator that is movable between a first position and a second position, wherein said mow in reverse override switch prevents the starter motor from starting the engine when the actuator is in the first position and wherein said reverse sensing switch, said PTO switch, and said mow in reverse override switch prevent said engine from operating when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO is engaged, and the actuator is in the second position.

34. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 33 wherein the mow in reverse override switch is a two position sustained action switch.

35. (Original) The reverse operation control system of claim 33 wherein the mow in reverse override switch allows the starter motor to start the engine when the actuator is in the second position.

36. (Currently Amended) The reverse operation control system of claim 33 wherein movement of the override switch actuator to the first position allows the engine to operate when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO is engaged, and the actuator is in first position.

37. (Original) A reverse operation control circuit for a lawn tractor having an engine and a PTO, comprising:

- a) a magneto coupled to the engine;
- b) a battery;
- c) a solenoid;
- d) an ignition switch for selectively communicating current flow from the battery to the solenoid to start the engine;
- e) a reverse sensing switch for sensing when the lawn tractor is in reverse;
- f) a PTO switch for sensing when a PTO driven implement is engaged;
- g) a mow in reverse override switch having an actuator that is movable between a first position and a second position, wherein said mow in reverse override switch opens a path from the battery to the solenoid to prevent the engine from starting when the actuator is in the first position and said reverse sensing switch, said PTO switch, and said mow in reverse override

switch providing a path from said magneto to ground to prevent said engine from operating when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO driven implement is engaged, and the actuator is in the second position.

38. (Original) The reverse operation control circuit of claim 37 wherein the mow in reverse override switch is a two position sustained action switch.

39. (Original) The reverse operation control system of claim 37 wherein the mow in reverse override switch closes a path from the battery to the solenoid when the actuator is in the second position.

40. (Original) The reverse operation control system of claim 37 wherein said path from said magneto to ground is open when the override switch actuator is in the first position, allowing the engine to operate when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO driven implement is engaged, and the actuator is in first position.

41. (Original) The reverse operation control system of claim 37 wherein said mow in reverse override switch includes first and second poles wherein said first pole opens the path from the battery to the solenoid to prevent the engine from starting when the actuator is in the first position and the second pole closes the path from the magneto to ground to prevent the engine from operating when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO driven implement is engaged, and the actuator is in the second position.

42. (Original) A method of controlling reverse operation of a lawn tractor, comprising:  
a) allowing operation of a PTO driven implement while the lawn tractor is in reverse when an actuator of an override switch is in a first position;  
b) inhibiting operation of the PTO driven implement while the lawn tractor is in reverse when the actuator of the override switch is in a second position; and  
c) inhibiting energizing of a starter motor when the actuator of the override switch is in said first position.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42 wherein the PTO driven implement is a mower blade.

44. (Original) The method of claim 42 further comprising moving the actuator of the

override switch from said first position to said second position to allow energizing of the starter motor with the battery.

45-48 (Canceled)

49. (Original) A method of controlling reverse operation of a lawn tractor, comprising:

- a) sensing when the lawn tractor is in reverse;
- b) sensing when a PTO driven implement is engaged;
- c) preventing a starter motor from starting a lawn tractor engine when an override switch actuator is in a first position; and
- d) preventing said engine from operating when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO driven implement is engaged, and the actuator is in a second position.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising allowing the starter motor to start the engine when the override switch actuator is in the second position.

51. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising allowing the engine to operate when the lawn tractor is in reverse, the PTO driven implement is engaged, and the actuator is in first position.